



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

A Flying Trip to the Tropics.¹—In this pleasantly written journal the author gives us an account of a trip which occupied fifty-four days. Leaving New York June 11, 1892, with his wife and brother, he visited the Island of Curaçao, journeyed by boat up the Magdalena in Colombia as far as Yeguas, travelled by train to Honda, and thence proceeded over the mountainous Bogota road as far as Guadas, returning over the same route.

We cannot expect that so hurried a reconnaissance should yield much that was new from a naturalist's point of view, but the author proves conclusively that in comparatively few weeks we can visit lands which seem permanently beyond our horizon and make the acquaintance in life of at least the more characteristic forms of tropical bird-life. Indeed, to the naturalist the peculiar value of the book lies in the fact that the writer had no time to make a special study of anything. He found an abundance of material on every side, and his daily record of commonplace sights and incidents evidently forms a well-balanced picture of town, roadside, and riverside bird-life.

From Curaçao he records 23 of the 39 species of birds known from the island, while his list of Colombian birds includes 91 species or perhaps one-sixth of those which inhabit the region passed through. In view of the limited time available for field-work he may feel proud of the 210 bird-skins which figure among the material results of his trip.

Few books of travel are more adequately or handsomely illustrated. The numerous maps, half-tone cuts, and drawings of animals admirably supplement the text. Naturalists will welcome the colored plates by Keulemans, and black and whites by Keulemans and the late Gustav Mützel; while the extended bibliographical appendix will be of value to future workers in the same field.—F. M. C.

Shufeldt on the Osteology of Cranes and Rails.²—After reviewing the recent classifications of the Paludicolæ, Dr. Shufeldt presents a synoptic table of the osteological characters of *Porzana carolina*, which are said to agree in the main with those of the genera *Crex* and *Rallus*, and also with those of the Coots (*Fulica*) and the Gallinules. In another table is given a comparative synopsis of the osteological characters of *Rallus longirostris*, *Aramus giganteus*, and *Grus americana*, from which

¹ A Flying Trip to the Tropics. A Record of an Ornithological Visit to the United States of Colombia, South America, and to the Island of Curaçao, West Indies, in the year 1892. By Wirt Robinson, Second Lieutenant, Fourth U. S. Artillery. Cambridge: Printed at the Riverside Press, 1895. Sq. 8vo., pp. i-x, 1-194, 108 illustrations.

² On the Osteology of Certain Cranes, Rails, and their Allies, with Remarks upon their Affinities. By R. W. Shufeldt, M. D. Journ. Anat. and Phys., Vol. XXIX, 1894, pp. 21-34.

he concludes that "the Courlans possess a greater number of grüne characters than they do ralline ones." The *Paludicolæ* are divided into two superfamilies, the *Gruioidea*, and the *Rallioidea*, the first including the Cranes and Courlans, each as distinct families, and the other the Rails, Gallinules and Coots.—J. A. A.

Grundtvig on the Birds of Shiocton, Wisconsin.—Mr. Grundtvig's paper was originally published in Danish in 1888, and has recently been translated into English and republished.¹ It is a copiously annotated list of 183 species, the result of systematic daily observations carried on by the author "from October, 1881, to October, 1883," within the limits of a very small area Outagamie County, Wisconsin. The introductory pages (pp. 73-94) describe the author's method of work, the general character and extent of the region treated and the distribution of the birds therein, and also notes the influence of the spring weather upon the arrival of the migratory birds in both 1882 and 1883. During the period mentioned the author appears to have given a large part of his time to the study in the field of the birds of his immediate vicinity, and the results of such detailed work, here presented, possess unusual value and interest. Thanks are due Mr. Faxon and to the Wisconsin Academy for rendering Mr. Grundtvig's paper accessible to English readers.—J. A. A.

Bourns and Worcester on the Birds of the Philippine Islands.²—The authors of the present paper "had the honor of forming two of the 'party of five collectors from the United States' which constituted the Steere Expedition to the Philippines" in 1887-88, when thirteen of the larger islands of the group were visited in company with Dr. Steere. "Being convinced," say these authors, "that much remained to be done, both in the discovery of new species and in the working out of the exact distribution of species already known, we were extremely anxious to return and continue the work. This we were enabled to do in the summer of 1890 through the liberality of Mr. Louis F. Menage, a public spirited citizen of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a member of the Minne-

¹ On the Birds of Shiocton in Bovina, Outagamie County, Wisconsin, 1881-83. By F. L. Grundtvig. Trans. Wisconsin Acad. Sciences, Arts, and Letters, Vol. X, 1894, pp. 73-158, with map. Translated by Charles E. Faxon, from the *Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjöbenhavn for Aaret 1887*, pp. 305-396 (1888). Translation "Issued July, 1894."

² Preliminary Notes on the Birds and Mammals collected by the Menage Scientific Expedition to the Philippine Islands. By Frank S. Bourns and Dean C. Worcester. Minnesota Acad. Nat. Sciences, Occasional Papers, Vol. I, No. 1, Dec., 1894. 4to., pp. 64.